

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-10 LAB-04  
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R 121014Z APR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7007

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: ELAB, JA  
SUBJECT: DELIVERY OF LETTERS TO DOMEI PRESIDENT AMAIKE  
AND SOHYO PRESIDENT MAKIEDA

REF: STATE 092855

1. BECAUSE NEITHER SOHYO PRESIDENT MAKIEDA NOR DOMEI PRESIDENT AMAIKE AVAILABLE APRIL 12, LABATT DELIVERED LETTERS FROM AFL-CIO PRESIDENT MEANY, TRANSMITTED REFTTEL, TO SOHYO INTERNATIONAL BUREAU DIRECTOR DOKI AND DOMEI INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR AIHARA. COPIES ALSO PASSED TO ZENKIN DOMEI SEC GEN FUJIWARA IN VIEW HIS SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH AMAIKE.

2. DOKI SAID SOHYO HAD ALREADY RECEIVED APRIL 5 LETTER. WITH REGARD TO APRIL 10 LETTER, DOKI'S IMMEDIATE REACTION WAS THAT SOHYO OF COURSE ACCEPTED AFL-CIO CONDITION THAT SOHYO INVITE TO CONVENTION ONLY NATIONAL LABOR CONFEDERATIONS WITH WHOM AFL-CIO WOULD BE "ENTIRELY COMFORTABLE." MOREOVER, DOKI OFFERED AS PERSONAL VIEW THAT SOHYO WOULD AGREE QUICKLY TO AFL-CIO PROPOSAL FOR WASHINGTON CONFERENCE THIS FALL. WITH REGARD TO LATTER POINT, DOKI SAID HE HAD ALREADY SUGGESTED TO SOHYO SEC GEN TOMIZUKA THAT LATTER PROPOSE SUCH A MEETING WHEN  
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HE VISITS WASHINGTON IN MAY. DOKI ALSO TOLD LABATT THAT PRESIDENT MAKIEDA HAD MET WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF DOMEI, CHURITSU ROREN AND SHINSANBETSU EVENING APRIL 10 AND HAD OBTAINED FROM ALL OF THEM ASSURANCES THAT THEY WOULD NOT OBJECT TO SOHYO CONVENTION INVITATION TO AFL-CIO.

3. AIHARA, AFTER READING LETTERS, COMMENTED ONLY THAT

THEY APPEARED TO REFLECT SPIRIT OF DISCUSSION BETWEEN AFL-CIO AND DOMEI ABOUT SOHYO INVITATION HELD ON LAST DAY OF AFL-CIO REPS VISIT TO JAPAN IN MID-MARCH. FUJIWARA, HOWEVER, SEEMED VERY SURPRISED, SAID AMAIKE EXPECTED AFL-CIO TO TURN DOWN INVITATION, THOUGHT THAT IN ANY CASE AFL-CIO SHOULD NOT ACCEPT MAKIEDA'S INVITATION BEFORE HOLDING SUBSTANTIVE TALKS WITH SOHYO AND DENIED THAT AMAIKE HAD PROMISED MAKIEDA NOT TO OBJECT TO AFL-CIO ATTENDANCE AT SOHYO CONVENTION. FUJIWARA HINTED THAT AFL-CIO DELEGATES' PRESENCE AT SOHYO CONVENTION WOULD STRENGTHEN HAND OF THOSE IN DOMEI ARGUING FOR EXCHANGES WITH SOVIET TRADE UNION ORGANIZATIONS ON GROUNDS SUCH CONTACTS WOULD ASSIST COMPANIES ORGANIZED BY THEM IN CONDUCTING TRADE DEALS WITH USSR. FUJIWARA ALSO HINTED HE MIGHT VISIT WASHINGTON TO OBTAIN FURTHER CLARIFICATION OF AFL-CIO POSITION.

4. COMMENT: QUESTION WHETHER DOMEI HAS AGREED NOT TO OBJECT TO INVITATION BEARS CERTAIN RESEMBLANCE TO SCRIPT OF PIRANDELLO PLAY, WITH EMBASSY UNCERTAIN WHERE TRUTH LIES. WHILE SOHYO OFFICIALS CONTINUE TO INSIST THAT THEY HAVE DOMEI ASSURANCES IT WILL NOT POSE ANY OBSTACLES AND MINISTRY OF LABOR OFFICIALS CONFIRM THIS VERSION, FUJIWARA AT LEAST CONTINUES TO INSIST THAT NO SUCH CONVERSATION HAS EVER TAKEN PLACE WITH SOHYO. MANSFIELD

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INVITATIONS, LABOR UNION OFFICIALS, VISITS  
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**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**TAGS:** ELAB, JA, AFL-CIO, (MEANY, GEORGE)  
**To:** STATE  
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